CLAIMS:

1. A handheld computing device comprising:

a motion detection sensor(s), to detect motion of the computing device in one or more of six (6) fields of motion and to generate an indication of such motion; and

a motion control agent, responsive to motion indications received from the one or more motion detectors, to selectively generate control signals to modify one or more of the operating state and/or the displayed content of the computing device based, at least in part, on the motion indications.

2. A handheld computing device according to claim 1, wherein the motion detection sensor(s) are any one or more from a class of sensors including a micro-accelerometer, a mercury switch, a shock detector, a gyroscope and the like.

3. A handheld computing device according to claim 1, wherein the motion detection sensors require an initial motion and a complementary motion within certain ones of the fields of motion that exceed a motion threshold before an indication of motion is generated.

4. A handheld computing device according to claim 1, wherein the sensor(s) are responsive to motion in one or more of an x-, y- or z-fields of motion.

5. A handheld computing device according to claim 1, wherein the sensor(s) are responsive to rotational motion about one or more of an x-, y- or z-axis.

6.   A handheld computing device according to claim 1, wherein the sensor(s) are responsive to motion in one or more of an x-, y- or z-fields of motion, as well as to rotational motion about one or more of an x-, y- or z-axis.

7.   A handheld computing device according to claim 6, wherein the motion detection sensor(s) require an initial motion and a complementary motion to generate a motion indication in response to rotational motion about one of the axes.

8.   A handheld computing device according to claim 1, wherein the motion control agent identifies a current operating state of the computing device to determine what control signals to issue in response to motion indication(s) received from the motion detection sensor(s).

9.   A handheld computing device according to claim 1, wherein the motion control agent determines whether an operating system or another application has operational control of a display of the computing device to determine what control signal(s) to issue in response to motion indication(s) received from the motion detection sensor(s).

10.   A handheld computing device according to claim 9, wherein the motion control agent issues instructions to move a highlighted, active region from one icon to another icon in an operating system graphical user interface in response to indication(s) denoting motion in an x- or y-axis, or complementary motions about an x- or y-axis if the operating system has operational control of the display.

11.   A handheld computing device according to claim 9, wherein the motion control agent issues instructions to invoke an application associated with an icon denoted by a highlighted, active region in response to indication(s) of motion in the z-axis, or complementary motion about a z-axis if the operating system has operational control of the display.

12.   A handheld computing device according to claim 9, wherein the motion control agent issues instructions to display a subsequent page of content in response to indication(s) of motion in an x-axis, or complementary motions about a y-axis if an application has operational control of the display.

13.   A handheld computing device according to claim 9, wherein the motion control agent issues instructions to scroll displayed content of an application in response to indication(s) of motion in the y-axis, or complementary motion about a x-axis if an application has operational control of the display.

14.   A handheld computing device according to claim 9, wherein the motion control agent issues instructions to zoom displayed content of an application in response to indication(s) of motion in the z-axis if an application has operational control of the display.

15.   A handheld computing device according to claim 1, further comprising:

        a storage device including a plurality of executable instructions; and

        a control unit, coupled to the storage device, to execute at least a subset of the plurality of instructions to selectively implement the motion control agent to control the

operating state and/or displayed content of the computing device in response to indication(s) of motion received from the motion sensor(s).

16.   A handheld computing device according to claim 1, wherein the motion control agent is selectively enabled by user assertion of an enable button.

17.   A handheld computing device according to claim 1, wherein the computing device is at least one of a personal digital assistant (PDA), an electronic book (eBook) appliance, a wireless communications device (cell phone, pager, etc.) and/or personal gaming device.

18.   A storage medium comprising a plurality of executable instructions which, when implemented by a computing device, cause the machine to implement a motion control agent to receive indication(s) that the computing device is being physically manipulated in one or more of six (6) fields of motion and to generate control signals to modify one or more of the operating state and/or displayed content of the computing device in response to such indication(s).

19.   A storage medium according to claim 18, wherein the instructions to implement the motion control agent include instructions to identify a current operating state of the computing device to determine what control signals to issue in response to the received motion indication(s).

20.   A storage medium according to claim 19, wherein the instructions to identify the current operating state detect whether an operating system or another application has

operational control of a display of the computing device to determine what control

signal(s) to issue in response to received motion indication(s).

21.   A storage medium according to claim 18, wherein the instructions to implement

the motion control agent further comprise instructions to enable the agent to issue control

signals to move a highlighted, active region from one icon to another icon in an operating

system graphical user interface in response to indication(s) denoting motion in an x- or y-

axis, or complementary motions about an x- or y-axis if the operating system has

operational control of a display of the computing device.

22.   A storage medium according to claim 18, wherein the instructions to implement

the motion control agent further comprise instructions to enable the agent to issue control

signals to invoke an application associated with an icon denoted by a highlighted, active

region in response to indication(s) of motion in the z-axis, or complementary motion

about a z-axis if the operating system has operational control of display of the computing

device.

23.   A storage medium according to claim 18, wherein the instructions to implement

the motion control agent further comprise instructions to enable the agent to issue control

signals to display a subsequent page of content in response to indication(s) of motion in

the x-axis, or complementary motions about a y-axis if an application has operational

control of a computing system display.

24.   A storage medium according to claim 18, wherein the instructions to implement

the motion control agent further comprise instructions to enable the agent to issue control

signals to scroll displayed content of an application in response to indication(s) of motion in the y-axis, or complementary motion about the x-axis if the application has operational control of a computing system display.

25. A storage medium according to claim 18, wherein the instructions to implement the motion control agent further comprise instructions to enable the agent to generate control signals to zoom displayed content of an application in response to indication(s) of motion in the z-axis if the application has operational control of a computing system display.

26. A method for controlling a handheld computing device, the method comprising:

receiving indications of motion of the computing device in one or more of six (6) fields of motion from motion detection sensor(s) integrated with the computing device; and

modifying an operating state and/or displayed content of the computing device in response to receiving such indication(s) of motion.

27. A method according to claim 26, wherein modifying the operational state and/or displayed content of the computing device is dependent on a current operating state of the computing device and the received indication(s) of motion.

28. A method according to claim 27, wherein modifying the operational state and or displayed content comprises:

generating control signals to move a highlighted, active region from one icon to another icon in an operating system graphical user interface in response to indication(s)

denoting motion in an x- or y-axis, or complementary motions about an x- or y-axis if the operating system has operational control of a display of the computing device.

29.   A method according to claim 27, wherein modifying the operational state and or displayed content comprises:

generating control signals to invoke an application associated with an icon denoted by a highlighted, active region in response to indication(s) of motion in the z-axis, or complementary motion about a z-axis if the operating system has operational control of display of the computing device.

30.   A method according to claim 27, wherein modifying the operational state and or displayed content comprises:

generating control signals to display a subsequent page of content in response to indication(s) of motion in the x-axis, or complementary motions about a y-axis if an application has operational control of a computing system display.

31.   A method according to claim 27, wherein modifying the operational state and or displayed content comprises:

generating control signals to scroll displayed content of an application in response to indication(s) of motion in the y-axis, or complementary motion about the x-axis if the application has operational control of a computing system display.

32.   A method according to claim 27, wherein modifying the operational state and or displayed content comprises:

generating control signals to zoom displayed content of an application in response to indication(s) of motion in the z-axis if the application has operational control of a computing system display.

5   33.   A storage medium comprising a plurality of executable instructions which, when executed by an accessing computing device, implement a method according to claim 26.